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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

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Part II - Section 3

Order No. 27 Secy (Trm) UTL of 2026
Dated: 25.05.2026

Subject: Declaration of Eligible Tourism Units as Industry in the UT of Ladakh.

Sanction is hereby accorded for the declaration of registered tourism accommodation units, namely Hotels and Guest Houses registered with the Department of Tourism & Culture, UT Ladakh, as "Industry" for the limited purpose of eligibility under applicable industrial policies, incentives, concessions and infrastructure support schemes of the UT Administration.

The following shall govern the implementation of this Order:

1. The benefit of this Order shall apply only to such Hotels and Guest Houses as are registered under the Ladakh Tourist Unit Unified Registration Order, 2026 and comply with norms prescribed by the competent authority.
2. Eligible units will be considered for industrial electricity and water tariffs, regulations and compliances prescribed by the competent authorities.
3. Eligibility for incentives, subsidies and other benefits under industrial policies/schemes shall be subject to fulfilment of prescribed conditions under the relevant policy/framework.
4. The Department of Tourism & Culture shall be the nodal department for certification of eligible units and implementation of this Order.
5. This Order shall come into force with immediate effect.

By order of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Ladakh.

Sd/-

Sanjit Rodrigues (IAS)/संजीत रोड्रिग्स (आईएएस)
Secretary /सचिव
Tourism & Culture Department /संस्कृति विभाग
UT of Ladakh/संघ राज्य लद्दाख S

Secy(Trm)(Tourism Industry) (234)/2026/775-88 **Dated: 25.05.2026**

Atul Singh Mankotia (JKAS)/ अतुल सिंह मनकोटिया
Under Secretary/अवर सचिव T
Tourism & Culture Department/पर्यटन एवं संस्कृति विभाग
UT Ladakh/संघ राज्य लद्दाख

Copy to the:

1. All Administrative Secretaries, UT of Ladakh.
2. Deputy Commissioner, Leh/Nubra/Changthang/Sham/Kargil/Drass/Zangskar.
3. Director Tourism & Culture, UT of Ladakh
4. OSD with HLG, UT of Ladakh for kind information of the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor.
5. OSD with the Chief Secretary, UT of Ladakh for kind information of the Chief Secretary
6. Assistant Director, Tourism, Leh
7. Assistant Director, Tourism, Kargil
8. Tourist Officer, Zanskar
9. In-charge website, NIC, Leh for uploading the notification on website

Explanatory Note

Declaration of Eligible Tourism Units as Industry in UT Ladakh

1. Background and Rationale

Tourism plays a pivotal role in the economy of the Union Territory of Ladakh by contributing to employment generation, livelihood opportunities, and the preservation and promotion of its unique cultural and natural heritage. Recognising its strategic importance and its strong interlinkages with several other sectors of the economy, the tourism and hospitality sector has been accorded the status of an "Industry" for limited and specific purposes. This measure is intended to improve the financial sustainability of tourism enterprises by reducing operational costs, facilitate ease of doing business, attract private investment, and enable eligible units to access benefits available under industrial policies, including incentives, concessions, and infrastructure support mechanisms.

2. Eligibility

Eligibility under this Order is designed to ensure that only duly registered and compliant tourism units avail the benefits of industry status. Accordingly, the framework places emphasis on formal registration and adherence to prescribed standards as essential preconditions for access to these provisions.

- The applicability of this Order is restricted to Hotels and Guest Houses that are duly registered under the Ladakh Tourist Unit Unified Registration Order, 2026. Registration with the Department of Tourism, UT Ladakh is a mandatory pre-condition for availing any benefit under this framework, and no unregistered unit shall be deemed eligible.
- In addition to registration, such units must adhere to all norms, standards, and compliance requirements as prescribed by the competent authorities from time to time.

3. Applicability of Industrial Tariffs

The extension of these tariff benefits is expected to significantly reduce operational costs and improve the viability of tourism enterprises in the region. Upon classification as “Industry” for the specified purposes, eligible and registered tourism units shall be entitled to the application of industrial tariffs for essential utilities, subject to compliance with relevant regulations and departmental procedures.

- With respect to electricity, such units shall be eligible to avail industrial electricity tariffs as notified and regulated by the concerned regulatory commission. This benefit shall be extended upon fulfilment of all technical, regulatory, and procedural requirements as prescribed by the Power Development Department, UT Ladakh.
- Similarly, with respect to water usage, eligible tourism units shall be entitled to industrial water tariffs. This shall be subject to compliance with the conditions and procedures specified by the Public Health Engineering Department, UT Ladakh.

4. Industrial Incentives and Benefits

The declaration of tourism units as industry also enables eligible establishments to access a range of incentives and benefits available under industrial policy frameworks.

- Such units may avail benefits under the Ladakh Sustainable Industrial Policy, 2022-27, as well as any other industrial policies or schemes notified by the UT Administration or the Government of India from time to time.
- However, access to these benefits shall be strictly subject to fulfilment of eligibility conditions and compliance requirements as specified in the respective policy or scheme guidelines.

5. Role of Line Departments

The effective implementation of this Order requires coordinated action by relevant line departments, particularly those responsible for utility services.

- The Power Development Department, UT Ladakh, shall be responsible for operationalising the provision of industrial electricity tariffs to eligible tourism units. For this purpose, the department shall issue detailed SOPs outlining the process, documentation requirements, and compliance conditions. The Power Development Department, UT Ladakh shall initiate implementation of the revised tariff regime with effect from 1 June 2026, and shall undertake all necessary formalities, including obtaining regulatory approvals from the concerned regulatory commission and securing financial and administrative concurrence from competent authorities such as the Planning and Finance departments, wherever required.
- The Public Health Engineering Department, UT Ladakh shall be responsible for extending industrial water tariffs to eligible units. The department shall issue its own SOPs detailing the implementation framework and shall commence rollout from 1 June 2026. The Public Health Engineering Department, UT Ladakh shall independently complete all required procedural and regulatory formalities, including necessary approvals and internal processes for operationalising the notification, from competent authorities such as the Planning and Finance departments, wherever required.

6. Property Tax

At present, property tax is not levied in the Union Territory of Ladakh. Accordingly, the declaration of tourism units as industry shall have no bearing or implication on property taxation in the UT.

7. Implementation Mechanism

The Department of Tourism, UT Ladakh shall function as the nodal department for the implementation of this Order. It shall be responsible for certifying the eligibility of tourism units seeking benefits under this framework and for ensuring overall coordination among the concerned departments. The Department of Tourism, UT Ladakh shall also serve as the primary point of contact for any clarifications or issues pertaining to eligibility, certification, and implementation.

8. Effective Implementation Timeline

This Order shall come into force with immediate effect from the date of its issuance. However, the operational rollout of key benefits, particularly the application of industrial tariffs for electricity and water, shall be undertaken by the Power Development Department and Public Health Engineering Department with effect from 1 June 2026, with prior issuance of the required SOPs and completion of all necessary procedural and regulatory formalities.

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